

[illegible]

A multi-component liquid filter is provided having at least two filter elements. One of the filter elements has an increased effective surface area defined by, for example, a pleated surface, to provide an increased filtering surface area. In addition, another one of the filter elements can have a flat surface to minimize the filtering surface area of the element. In one embodiment, the multi-component liquid filter has at least two generally cylindrical filter elements arranged concentric relative to a common axis. One of the filter elements can have a circumferential filtering surface having an increased effective surface area and another one of the filter elements can have a constant radius circumferential filtering surface to minimize the filtering surface area of the element.